

Home is Where the Asthma is: How Indoor Environments Impact Respiratory Health



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What is asthma?

- ✓ A chronic inflammatory disease of the lungs
- ✓ Caused by both genetics and the environment
- ✓ Incurable
- ✓ Effectively managed with proper medical care and control of triggers



Common Symptoms

- Shortness of breath
- Wheezing
- Tightness in the chest
- Cough that lasts more than a week
- Waking at night with asthma symptoms

How is asthma related to housing?

Dust mites



Animal dander



Cockroaches



Mold



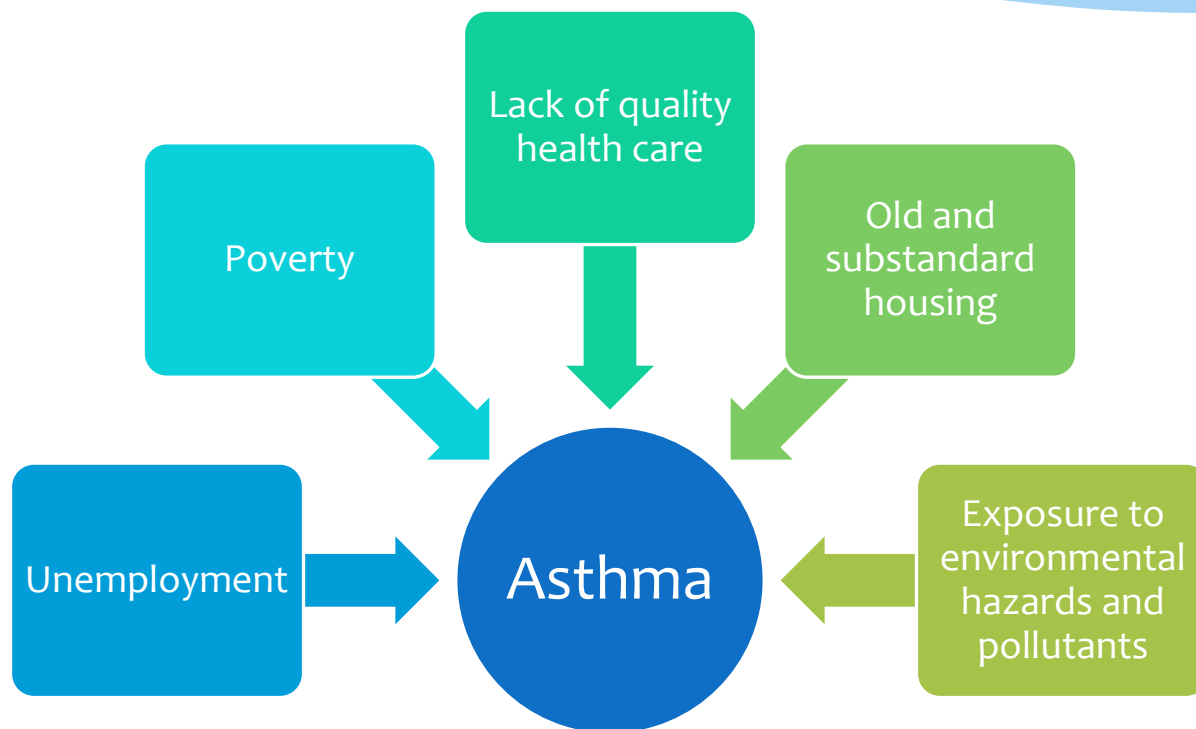
Cleaners & Pesticides



Tobacco smoke



Asthma and Social Determinants



How common is asthma in Los Angeles County?

Children

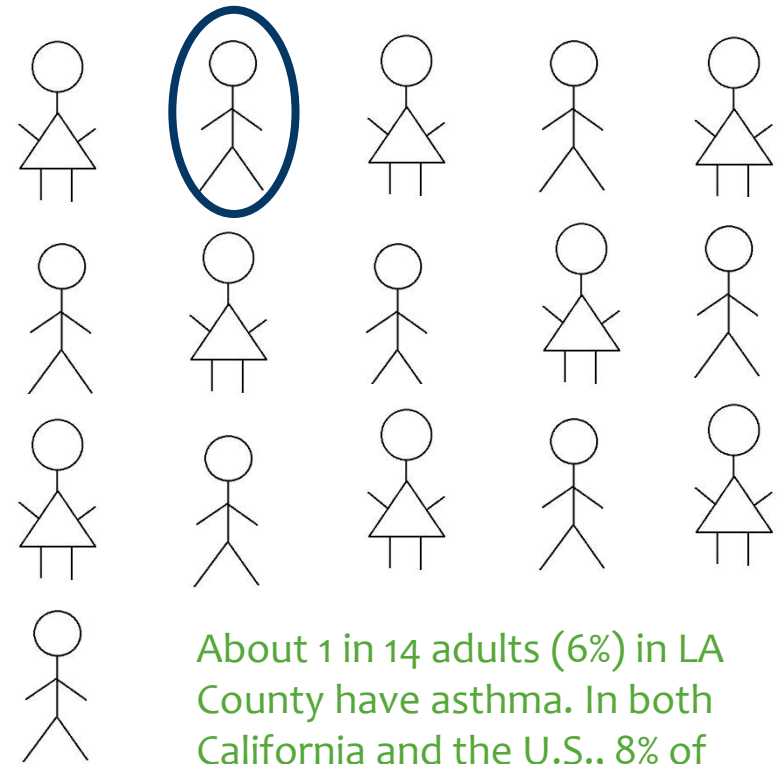


About 1 in 11 children (9%) in LA County currently have asthma (212,000).¹ In California, 7% of children have asthma, and 9.5% of children in the U.S. have asthma.^{2,3}



1. LA County Health Survey, 2011
 2. California Breathing, 2010
 3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2011
- *Note: The most current adult LA County asthma prevalence data is from 2007.

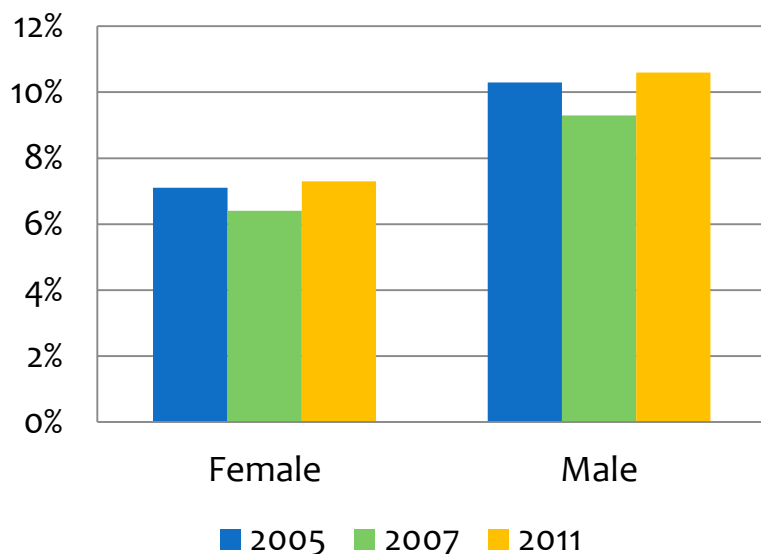
Adults



About 1 in 14 adults (6%) in LA County have asthma. In both California and the U.S., 8% of adults have asthma.^{2,3}

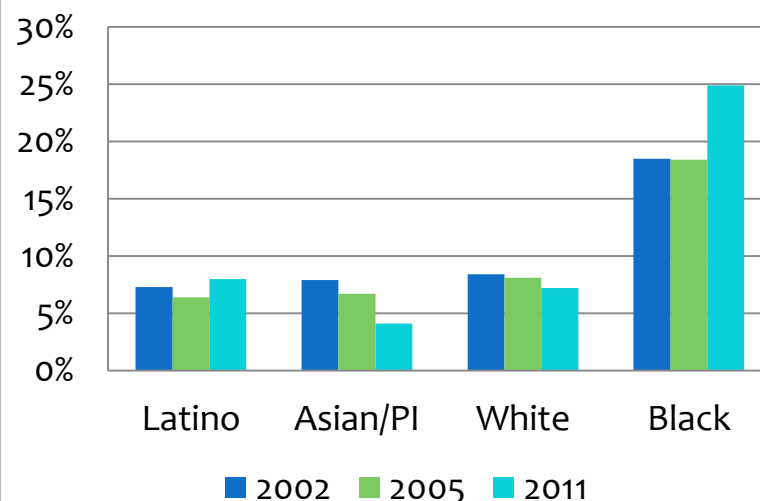
How does asthma differ by sex and race/ethnicity among children?

Prevalence of Child Asthma in LA County by Sex, 2005-2011



Source: LA County Health Survey.

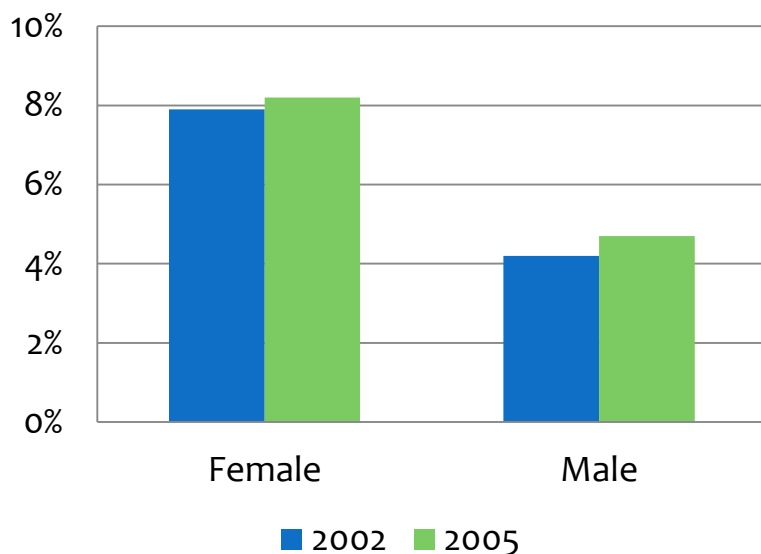
Prevalence of Child Asthma in LA County by Race/Ethnicity, 2005-2011



Source: LA County Health Survey.

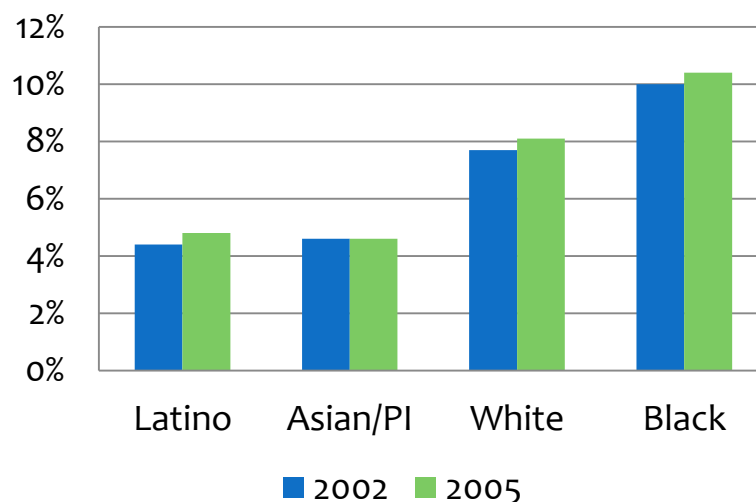
How does asthma differ by sex and race/ethnicity among adults?

Prevalence of Adult Asthma in LA County by Sex, 2002-2005



Source: LA County Health Survey.

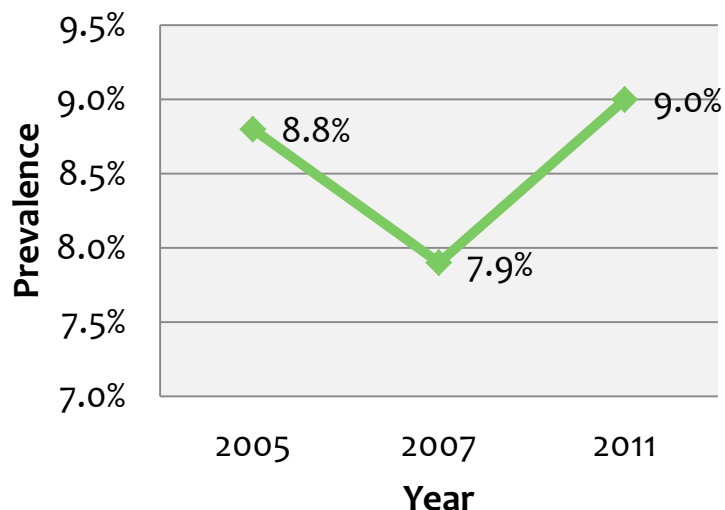
Prevalence of Adult Asthma in LA County by Race/Ethnicity, 2002-2005



Source: LA County Health Survey.

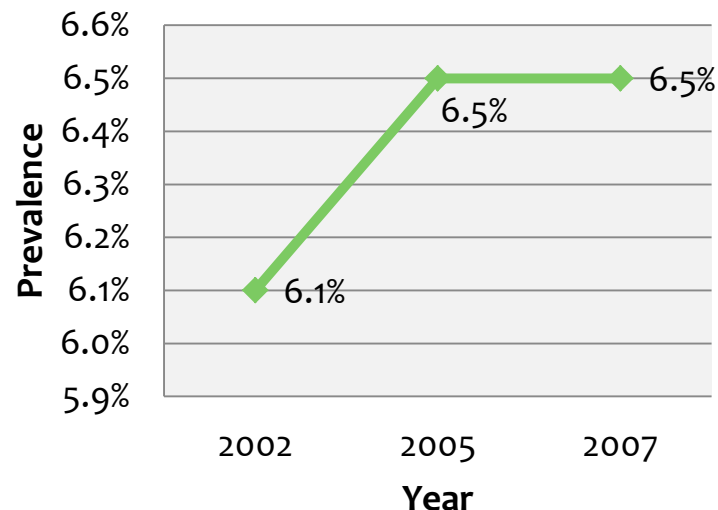
Have asthma rates in Los Angeles County changed over time?

Prevalence of Current Child Asthma in LA County, 2005-2011



Source: LA County Health Survey.

Prevalence of Current Adult Asthma in LA County, 2002-2007

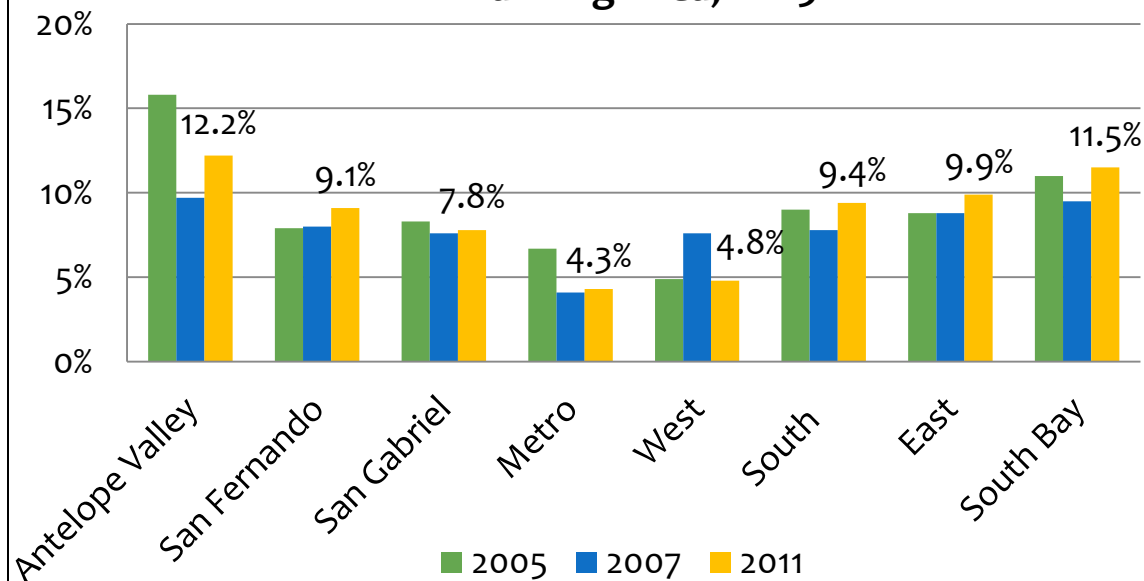


Source: LA County Health Survey.

*Note: Adult asthma prevalence data for 2007 is from California Breathing.

How do asthma rates differ around Los Angeles County?

Prevalence of Child Asthma in LA County by Service Planning Area, 2005-2011



Source: LA County Health Survey.



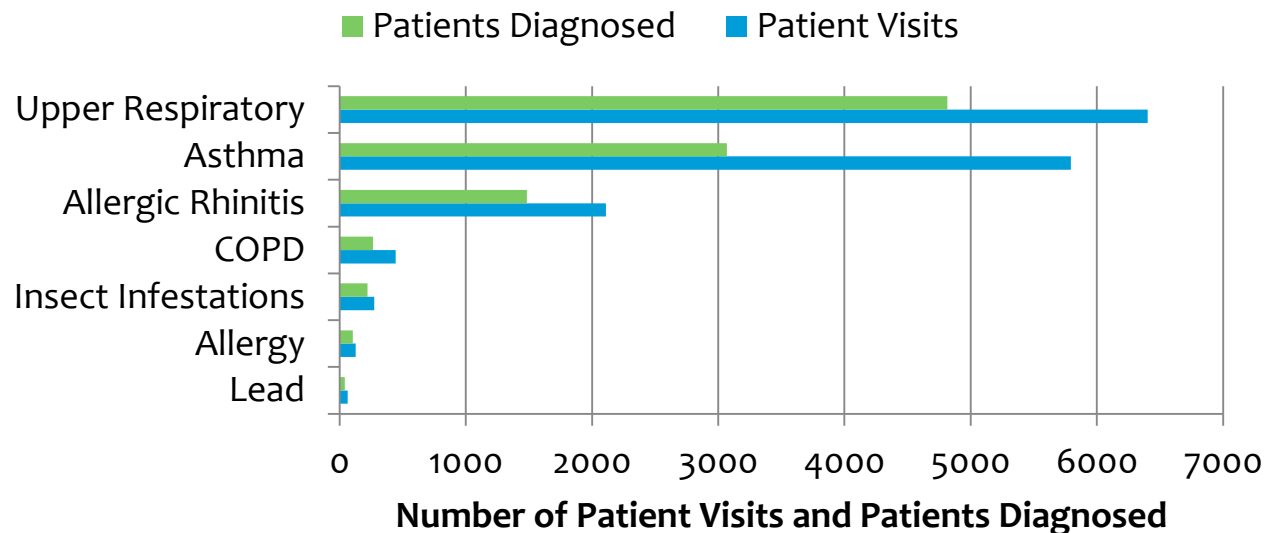
A Closer Look at South Los Angeles

South LA (SPA 6) Highlights¹

- ✓ Asthma prevalence is one of the highest in the County (9.4%)
- ✓ African Americans make up 26% of the population in South LA, compared to 8% in the County overall
- ✓ Nearly 3 in 10 families (28%) live below the federal poverty level
- ✓ 26% (271,000 families) do not have health insurance



Number of Unique Patient Visits and Diagnoses by Housing-Related Conditions, St. John's Well Child & Family Center, Los Angeles, CA, 2012



Source: St. John's Well Child & Family Center Medical Records System.

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1. Los Angeles County Health Survey, 2011



About the Asthma Coalition

WHO WE ARE

The Coalition is a broad-based coalition of experts from over 60 community-based organizations, advocacy groups, universities, government entities, school districts, health plans, hospitals, and clinics in Los Angeles County

VISION

Los Angeles County residents will live, work and learn in healthy environments where the effects of asthma are prevented or minimized and people with asthma will enjoy a high quality of life

MISSION

The Asthma Coalition of Los Angeles County acts as a collective, powerful voice for policy and systems change to prevent, minimize and manage the burden of asthma

The Goals of the Asthma Coalition

Increase access to
and improve
quality of health
care

Improve asthma
management in
schools

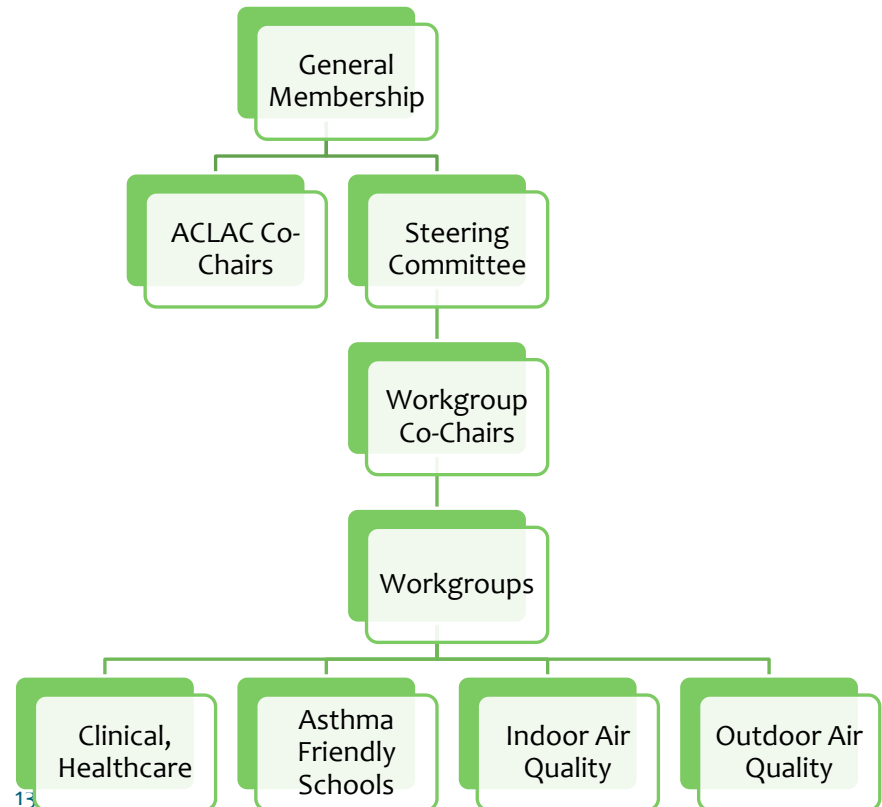
Improve outdoor
air quality

Improve indoor
air quality in
homes

Asthma Coalition Structure



Five Steering Committee members were present at the April 2013 general meeting to receive certificates of appreciation for their involvement and contributions to the Coalition. Members shown above (from left): Katie Balderas, Carrie Tayour, Francisco Covarrubias, Jessica Tovar, Yolanda Cuevas.



Asthma Coalition Activities

- ✓ Sign on and write letters of support for policies
- ✓ Participate in community health fairs and events
- ✓ Educate legislators and staff about asthma issues
- ✓ Discuss and develop policy solutions to asthma
- ✓ Seek funding to implement asthma-focused projects



Asthma Coalition representatives speak during a press conference at the 2013 World Asthma Day event in South Los Angeles.

Asthma Care & Education Resources

Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma (LBACA)

- Free asthma classes
- Training for clinicians
- Home visits by CHWs

Contact Information:

<http://lbaca.org/>
(562) 933-5650

St. John's Well Child & Family Center (SJWCFC)

- Primary care & preventive services
- Pediatric asthma disease management
- Health education & home visits

Contact Information:

<http://www.wellchild.org/>
(323) 541-1411

LAC+USC Breathmobile

- Mobile pediatric asthma clinic
- No-cost specialty care
- Asthma education

Contact Information:

<http://www.labreathmobile.com/> (323) 226-3813

Queenscare

- Healthcare for low-income and uninsured individuals and families
- Pediatric asthma disease management program

Contact Information:

<http://www.queenscare.org/> (323) 669-4302

Indoor Air Quality Resources

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- Basic asthma information
- Asthma triggers & IPM
- Asthma Community Network

More Information:

<http://www.epa.gov/asthma/>

Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)

- IPM policy
- Information & resources
- Training presentation

More Information:

<http://mo.laschools.org>

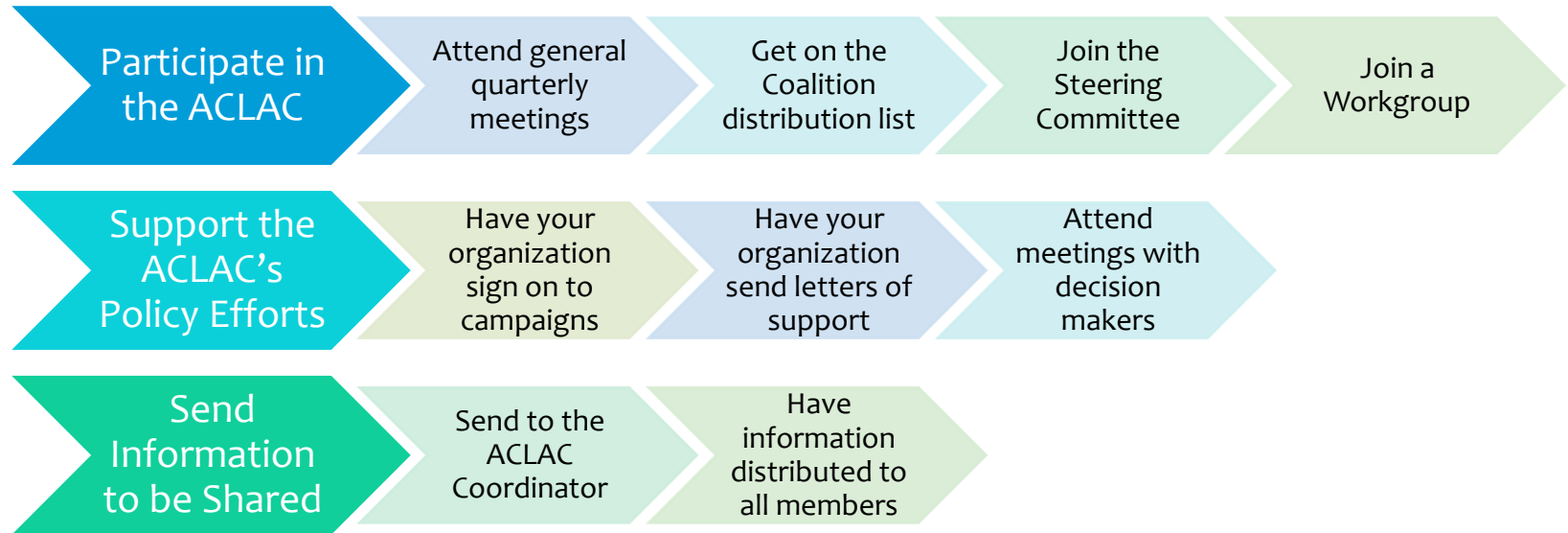
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

- Information & resources
- Brochures
- Tips and how-to instructions

More Information:

<http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal>

What can I do?



Thank You

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www.facebook.com/AsthmaCoalitionLA

